



QUICK REVISION MODULE (UPSC PRELIMS 2022) ENVIRONMENT

PROMINENT THREATENED SPECIES

MAMMALS



| NAME | STATUS | FEATURES | HABITAT/ DISTRIBUTION | THREATS |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| PGMY HOG  | Critically Endangered; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | World's smallest wild pig, captive-breeding programme was initiated in 1996 in Assam and reintroduction in Sonai Rupai area in 2009. | Undisturbed tall 'terai' grasslands, Manas Wildlife Sanctuary and its buffer reserves. | Loss and degradation of grasslands, dry-season burning, livestock grazing and afforestation of grasslands, Hunting. |

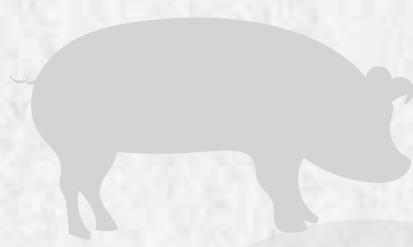


| Name | Status | Features | Habitat/Distribution | Threats |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| NAMDAPHA FLYING SQUIRREL  | Critically Endangered; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Arboreal species that is likely most active at dusk. | Namdapha National Park, the largest protected area in the Eastern Himalaya biodiversity hotspot | Degradation of forests, hunting. |
| MALABAR CIVET  | Critically Endangered; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Small, dog like carnivore. | Declared possibly extinct in 1978 but was rediscovered nine years later in western ghats | Habitat loss and hunting. |
| ASIAN WILD DOG (Dhole)  | Endangered; Schedule 2 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Asian wild dogs, plays an important role as apex predators in forest ecosystems. | Key populations found in three landscapes- Western Ghats, Central India and Northeast India. First dhole conservation breeding centre at the Indira Gandhi Zoological Park (IGZP) in Visakhapatnam | Ongoing habitat loss, Depletion of prey base, Persecution due to livestock predation and disease transfer from domestic and feral dogs. |





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|---|--|---|---|--|
| ASIAN ELEPHANT  | Endangered; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Active during twilight hours, adult females and calves move together as groups while males disperse on their own when reaching adolescence. subspecies of the Asian Elephant. They are as follows: Sri Lankan Elephant, Indian Elephant and Sumatran Elephant. | In India, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Southern part of West Bengal, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala. Some of the largest elephant reserves in India are located in Periyar and Nilambur in Kerala and the Shivalik in Uttarakhand. | Habitat loss and hunting. |
| BENGAL TIGER  | Endangered; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | National animal of India, also national animal of Bangladesh, South Korea, Vietnam, and Malaysia, largest specimen in the cat family, Project Tiger started by government in 1973. | Chooses the lowlands and is frequently seen in grasslands, swamps, and mangroves. The Bengal mangrove ecosystem is a rich habitat. | Climate change, habitat loss and hunting. |





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|--|--|---|--|---|
| CLOUDED LEOPARD  | Vulnerable; Schedule 2 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | State animal of Meghalaya. | Grassland, shrubs, subtropical and dense tropical forest up to a height of 7,000 feet occurring from the Himalayan foothills through mainland Southeast Asia into China, In India, it occurs in Sikkim, northern West Bengal, Meghalaya subtropical forests, Tripura, Mizoram, Manipur, Assam, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh. | Habitat loss due to deforestation, changing rainfall patterns, human-animal conflict, development projects |
| SANGAI DEER  | Endangered; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | State animal of Manipur, popularly called as 'dancing deer' of Manipur. | Endemic and rare sub species of brow antlered deer found only in Manipur, habitat of the sangai is now protected as the Keibul Lamjao National Park (only floating national park in India) | Climate change, habitat loss and hunting. |
| GOLDEN LANGUR  | Endangered; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Old World monkey, exhibits sexual dimorphism. | found in a small region of western Assam and in the neighbouring foothills of the Black Mountains of Bhutan. | electrocution, road accidents, retaliatory killing, illegal pet keeping and inbreeding. |



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|---|---|--|--|---|
| GAUR  | Vulnerable; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Tallest species of wild cattle found in India and largest extant bovine. Recently, the first population estimation exercise of the Indian Gaur (Bison) was carried out in the Nilgiris Forest Division, Tamil Nadu. Conservation breeding of Gaur was started at Mysuru zoo. | Native to South and Southeast Asia. In India, they are found in Nagarhole, Bandipur, Masinagudi National Parks and BR Hills. | Food Scarcity, Poaching, Habitat Loss, Human-Animal Conflict. |
| HIMALAYAN BROWN BEAR  | Least concern; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Goes into hibernation around October and emerges around April and May, Omnivores, least arboreal bear and is largely terrestrial. | Prefers open valleys and pastures. fragmented alpine and subalpine habitats. Himalayan brown bears live in remote parts of the western Himalayas. Already speculated to have become extinct in Bhutan. Sanctuary for Himalayan Brown Bears is in Himachal Pradesh in the tribal Chumba region. | Habitat loss, climate change, human animal conflict. |



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|---|--|--|--|--|
| MUSK DEER  | Endangered; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Adapted for high altitudes, waxy substance called musk that the male secretes from a gland in the abdomen used to mark territories and attract females, but the musk is also used in the manufacture of perfumes and medicines. | Inhabits high alpine environments above altitudes of 2,500 m in Himalayas of Nepal, Bhutan, India, Pakistan and China. Kedarnath Musk Deer Sanctuary | Habitat loss, poaching, live stock grazing, natural predation. |
| HOOLOCK GIBBON  | Western hoolock gibbon: Endangered and Eastern hoolock gibbon: Vulnerable; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | only ape found in India, two types: Western hoolock gibbon and Eastern hoolock gibbon. | Western hoolock gibbon (all the states of the north-east, restricted between the south of the Brahmaputra river and east of the Dibang river) and Eastern hoolock gibbon (specific pockets of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam). | Habitat destruction, habitat fragmentation, habitat degradation and hunting. |
| BLACK BUCK  | Least concern; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Indian Antelope, sole extant member of the genus Antilope. | Inhabits grassy plains and lightly forested areas with perennial water sources. Once widespread throughout the Indian subcontinent, it has become extinct in Pakistan and Bangladesh. | habitat loss due to develop- mental work and human encroachment of grassland area and hunting |



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|---|---|--|--|---|
| INDIAN WILD ASS (KHUR)  | Near Threatened; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | One of the fastest of Indian animals, with speeds clocked at about 70 – 80 km. per hour, live either solitarily, or in small groups. | Live in the deserts and other arid areas of Little Rann of Kutch and its surrounding areas of the Great Rann of Kutch in the Gujarat. | Disease outbreak, habitat degradation due to salt activities, the invasion of the Prosopis juliflora shrub, and encroachment and grazing by the Maldhari. |
| LION TAILED MACAQUE  | Endangered; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Diurnal in nature, life expectancy for a wild lion-tailed macaque is 20 years while it is 30 years in captivity. | Rainforest environments as it is a good climber, spends most of its time in the upper reaches of a tropical rainforest regions of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Silent Valley National Park in Kerala has the largest population of lion-tailed macaques in South India. | Habitat loss due to anthropogenic activities and hunting. |
| RED PANDA  | Endangered; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Territorial and solitary except during mating season, excellent climbers and forage from trees, omnivores. | Temperate forest of the Himalayas and ranges from the foothills of western Nepal to China in the east. | habitat loss and degradation, human interference, illegal trading and poaching. |



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|--|---|--|--|----------------------------|
| SLOTH BEAR  | Vulnerable; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Adult sloth bears travel in pairs, excellent in climbing trees and running faster than humans. | Areas with forest cover, low hills bordering the outer range of the Himalayas from Punjab to Arunachal Pradesh. Sloth Bear Welfare Project, Agra Bear Rescue Facility. | Habitat loss and poaching. |
| TIBETIAN ANTELOPE (CHIRU)  | Near Threatened; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | considered to be close to goat family, underfur is renowned for its quality which is traditionally woven into an extremely fine fabric to make Shahtoosh shawls. | Lives at a 3,250-5,500 metre elevation in high altitude plains and montane valleys comprising of alpine and desert steppe and pasture, distinguished by low vegetation cover and productivity. Karakorma Wildlife Sanctuary and Changthang Cold Desert Wildlife Sanctuary. | Poaching for wool. |





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|----------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| YAK | Vulnerable; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Belong to the Bovine tribe, adapted for living at high altitudes, highly valued by Himalayan peoples, lifeline of pastoral nomads in high altitudes of the Indian Himalayan region. | Endemic to the Tibetan Plateau and the adjacent high-altitude regions, most comfortable above 14,000 feet. | Climate change and Inbreeding. |
| HIMALAYAN SEROW | Vulnerable; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Resembles a cross between a goat, a donkey, a cow, and a pig. Several species of serows, and all of them are found in Asia. | Found at altitudes between 2,000 metres and 4,000 metres. Found in eastern, central, and western Himalayas, but not in the Trans Himalayan region. | Poaching and the destruction of their forested mountain habitats. |



BIRDS



| Name | Status | Features | Habitat/ Distribution | Threats |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| JERDON'S COURSER  | Critically Endangered; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Nocturnal bird, considered extinct but rediscovered in 1986 | Undisturbed scrub jungles in open areas, SriLankamaleswara Wildlife Sanctuary in Andhra Pradesh. | Clearing of scrub jungle, creation of new pastures, growing of dryland crops, plantations of exotic trees, quarrying and the constructions, Illegal trapping of birds. |
| WHITE BELLIED HERON  | Critically Endangered; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Also known as the imperial heron, mostly found solitary. | Rivers with sand or gravel bars or inland lakes, found in five or six sites in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, one or two sites in Bhutan, and a few in Myanmar. | Loss and degradation of lowland forest and wetlands through direct exploitation and disturbance. |



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| SIBERIAN CRANE  | Critically Endangered; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Also known as the Siberian white crane or the snow crane. | Shallow wetlands in Tundra and plains. Three groups: the eastern group, which migrates from eastern Siberia to China, the central group, which migrates from western Siberia to India, and the western group, which migrate from western Russia to Iran. Keoladeo (Ghana) National Park (KNP) was the last consistently confirmed wintering area for the species in India. | Hunting and habitat loss. |
| GREAT INDIAN BUSTARD  | Critically Endangered; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | One of the heaviest flying birds in the world. | Resides in dry grasslands and scrublands on the Indian subcontinent; its largest populations are found in the Indian state of Rajasthan. | Habitat loss and hunting. 90% of its population has been reduced within 50 years (six generations) majorly due to poaching |





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|--|---|----------|---|--|
| BENGAL FLORICAN  | Critically Endangered; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | | Inhabits lowland dry, or seasonally inundated, natural and semi-natural grasslands, often interspersed with scattered scrub or patchy open forest. Indian Subcontinent mainly in India (Uttar Pradesh, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.) and terai region of Nepal. | Loss of its grassland habitat and hunting. |



REPTILES



| Name | Status | Features | Habitat/ Distribution | Threats |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| GHARIAL  | Endangered; Schedule 2 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Most uniquely evolved crocodilian in the world, a specialized river-dwelling fisheater. | Clean rivers with sand banks. Only viable population in the National Chambal Sanctuary, spread across three States of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Small non-breeding populations exist in Son, Gandak, Hoogly and Ghagra rivers. Extinct in Myanmar, Pakistan, Bhutan and Bangladesh. | Construction activities like dam, barrages, pollution, sand mining, riparian agriculture. |





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|---|--|--|---|--|
| LEATHERBACK TURTLES  | Endangered; Schedule 2 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Largest of living sea turtles weighing as much as 900 kg, excellent swimmers, Jelly fish are their primary prey. | Tropical and subtropical oceans, Found in tropical and temperate waters of the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans. | High sea fishing operations, harvesting of eggs, destruction of nests, Artificial lighting disorients hatchlings and adult and causes them to migrate inland rather than back to the sea. Threats to habitat include construction, mining and plantation of exotics. |
| OLIVE RIDLEY TURTLES  | Vulnerable; Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Smallest and most abundant of all sea turtles found in the world, unique mass nesting called Arribada. | Distributed in the tropical and warm-temperate regions of the South Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans. In India, Gahirmatha coast (Bhitarkanika National Park) of the Odisha, Rushikulya rookery coast in Ganjam district of Odisha etc. | Face serious threats across their migratory route, habitat and nesting beaches, due to human activities such as unfriendly turtle fishing practices, development, and exploitation of nesting beaches for ports, and tourist centers. |

FISH



| Name | Status | Features | Habitat/Distribution | Threats |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| LARGETOOTH SAWFISH  | Endangered; Schedule 2 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Long rostrums, tolerate a range of salinities, or salt levels. | Tropical and subtropical waters around the world-anywhere the waters are warm. | Accidentally getting caught in fishing nets. |
| HUMPBACK MASHEER  | Critically Endangered | Large freshwater fish also called the tiger of the water. | Freshwater of the Cauvery river basin including Kerala's Pambar, Kabini and Bhavani rivers. | Overfishing, habitat loss, pollution, dam construction etc. |



CORALS



| Name | Status | Features | Habitat/ Distribution | Threats |
|---|-----------------------|--|---|---|
| FIRE CORALS (MILLEPORA BOSCHMAI)  | Critically Endangered | Colonial marine organisms that exhibit physical characteristics similar to that of coral. Not true corals but are instead more closely related to Hydra and other hydrozoans, making them hydrocorals. | Found on reefs in the Indian, Pacific, and Atlantic Oceans and the Caribbean Sea. They form extensive outcrops on projecting parts of the reef where the tidal currents are strong. | Overfishing, habitat loss due to poor land management practices releasing more sediment, nutrients, and pollutants into the oceans. |

STATE ANIMAL OF VARIOUS STATES IN INDIA



STATE BIRDS OF VARIOUS STATES IN INDIA

